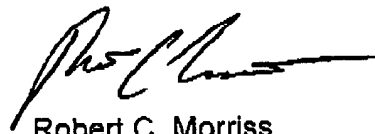


Serial No. 10/676,176

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in proper form for prosecution on the merits, which action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any questions relating to this Election or to this application in general, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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